

33082M211

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Shinji Irie, et al.

International Application No.: PCT/JP02/09512

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U.S. Serial No.: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned

Filed: : Herewith

Examiner: To Be Assigned

For: BOAT FOR THERMAL PROCESS AND VERTICAL  
THERMAL PROCESSING UNIT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, Applicants are enclosing an Information Disclosure Citation Form (PTO-1449) which lists the documents noted in the specification and International Search Report (ISR). Document AD on the attached PTO-1449 is cited in the specification. All other documents are listed in the ISR. A copy of the ISR is being filed herewith.

It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be considered by the Examiner in the above-identified patent application and that the cited documents be made officially of record therein. It is further requested that a listing of the same appear on the face of any patent which may issue from this application.

Respectfully submitted,  
SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

By: 

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Date: June 25, 2004

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| <b>FORM PTO-1449</b><br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b><br><br><i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> | <b>ATTY. DOCKET NO.</b><br>33082M211      | <b>SERIAL NO.</b><br>To Be Assigned<br><b>107500125</b> |
|   | <b>APPLICANTS:</b><br>Shinji Irie, et al. |   |
|   | <b>FILING DATE</b><br>Herewith            | <b>GROUP ART UNIT</b><br>To Be Assigned                 |
|   |   |   |

## U.S. Patent Documents

| Examiner Initials |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB-CLASS | FILING DATE, IF APPROPRIATE |
|-------------------|----|-----------------|------|------|-------|-----------|-----------------------------|
|                   | AA |                 |      |      |       |           |                             |
|                   | AB |                 |      |      |       |           |                             |
|                   | AC |                 |      |      |       |           |                             |
|                   | AD |                 |      |      |       |           |                             |
|                   | AE |                 |      |      |       |           |                             |
|                   | AF |                 |      |      |       |           |                             |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *Examiner Initials |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE    | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB-CLASS | TRANSLATION |    |
|--------------------|----|-----------------|---------|---------|-------|-----------|-------------|----|
|                    |    |                 |         |         |       |           | YES         | NO |
| Spec               | AD | 09-237781       | 9/9/97  | Japan   |       |           | Abstract    |    |
|                    | AE | 11-260746       | 9/24/99 | Japan   |       |           | Abstract    |    |
|                    | AF | WO 00/19502     | 4/6/00  | PCT     |       |           | Abstract    |    |
|                    | AG | 11-097362       | 4/9/99  | Japan   |       |           | Abstract    |    |
|                    | AH | 2000-269150     | 9/29/00 | Japan   |       |           | Abstract    |    |
|                    | AI | 10-050626       | 2/20/98 | Japan   |       |           | Abstract    |    |
|                    | AJ | WO 01/18856     | 3/15/01 | PCT     |       |           | Abstract    |    |
|                    | AK | 11-031639       | 2/2/99  | Japan   |       |           | Abstract    |    |

## OTHER INFORMATION (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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|  | AL |  |
|  | AM |  |
|  | AN |  |
|  | AO |  |
|  | AP |  |
|  | AQ |  |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.